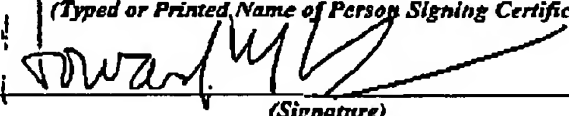


MAY 03 2006

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION BY FACSIMILE (37 CFR 1.8) Applicant(s): America, et al.			Docket No. FIS920040013US1	
Application No. 10/708,648	Filing Date March 17, 2004	Examiner Mohsen Ahmadi	Group Art Unit 2812	
Invention: OXIDIZED TANTALUM NITRIDE AS AN IMPROVED HARDMASK IN DUAL DAMASCENE PROCESSING				
<p>I hereby certify that this _____ Response to Final Office Action _____ <i>(Identify type of correspondence)</i></p> <p>is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (Fax. No. 571-273-8300)</p> <p>on <u>May 3, 2006</u> <i>(Date)</i></p> <div style="text-align: right; margin-top: 100px;"> <p>Howard M. Cohn <i>(Typed or Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate)</i></p>  <i>(Signature)</i> </div>				
<p>Note: Each paper must have its own certificate of mailing.</p>				

P18/REV02

MAY 03 2006

Appl. No. 10/708,648
Amdt. Dated 05/03/2006
Reply to Office action of March 3, 2006

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Confirmation No. 2647

In re : Application of America, et al.
For : OXIDIZED TANTALUM NITRIDE AS AN IMPROVED
HARDMASK IN DUAL DAMASCENE PROCESSING
Serial No. : 10/708,648
Filed : March 17, 2004
Group Art Unit : 2812
Examiner : Mohsen Ahmadi
Our Docket No. : FIS920040013US1
Customer No. : 24036

May 3, 2006

By Fax 571-273-8300

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

This is in response to the Final Office Action dated March 3, 2006 having a shortened statutory period of response set to expire on June 3, 2006.

Please amend the referenced application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.

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